

PATENT
USSN 10/044,692
Docket 002640US; 018/213c

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. *(Currently amended)*

~~A pharmaceutical composition suitable for administration to a human, comprising either:~~

- ~~a) a polypeptide containing at least 8 contiguous amino acid residues in SEQ. ID NO:2;~~
- ~~b) a polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to 20 contiguous amino acids in SEQ. ID NO:2; or~~
- ~~c) a polynucleotide encoding either of the aforesaid polypeptides; in a pharmaceutically compatible carrier~~

An immunogenic composition comprising:

- a) human telomerase reverse transcriptase (hTERT) protein (SEQ. ID NO:2);
 - b) an immunogenic polypeptide fragment of hTERT consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2;
 - c) a chimeric protein consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2 fused with an amino acid sequence of another protein;
- or
- d) a nucleic acid encoding any of a), b) or c).

2 to 9. **CANCELLED**

- 10. *(Original)* The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, further comprising an adjuvant.
- 11. *(Original)* A method for eliciting an immune response to human telomerase reverse transcriptase in a subject, comprising administering to the subject the composition of claim 1.
- 12. *(Currently amended)* A method for eliciting an immune response to human telomerase reverse transcriptase in a subject, comprising administering to the subject the composition of ~~claim 2~~ claim 21.
- 13. *(Currently amended)* A method for eliciting an immune response to human telomerase reverse transcriptase in a subject, comprising administering to the subject the composition of ~~claim 3~~ claim 23.

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14. *(Currently amended)* A method for eliciting an immune response to human telomerase reverse transcriptase in a subject, comprising administering to the subject the composition of ~~claim 4~~ claim 25.
15. *(Currently amended)* A method for eliciting an immune response to human telomerase reverse transcriptase in a subject, comprising administering to the subject the composition of ~~claim 5~~ claim 30.
16. *(Original)* The method of claim 11, wherein the composition elicits an antibody response specific for telomerase reverse transcriptase.
17. *(Original)* The method of claim 11, wherein the composition elicits a cytotoxic T cell response specific for telomerase reverse transcriptase.
18. *(Original)* The method of claim 11, further comprising assessing whether a telomerase-specific immune response is produced as a result of the administration.
19. *(Currently amended)* The composition of claim 1, in an amount wherein said ~~peptide or protein~~ protein, polypeptide, or nucleic acid is effective for eliciting an immunological response specific for telomerase reverse transcriptase in a mammalian subject.
20. *(Original)* The composition of claim 1, packaged in a container along with an indication of how the composition is to be administered.
21. *(New)* An immunogenic composition comprising a nucleic acid that encodes:
 - a) hTERT protein (SEQ. ID NO:2);
 - b) an immunogenic polypeptide fragment of hTERT consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2; or
 - c) a chimeric protein consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2 fused with an amino acid sequence of another protein.
22. *(New)* The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid encodes hTERT protein (SEQ. ID NO:2).
23. *(New)* The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid encodes an immunogenic polypeptide fragment of hTERT consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2.

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24. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid encodes an immunogenic polypeptide fragment of hTERT consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 50 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2.
25. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a chimeric protein consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2 fused with an amino acid sequence of another protein.
26. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 25, wherein the other protein is keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH).
27. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.
28. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid is RNA.
29. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid is a plasmid.
30. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid is a viral vector.
31. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid is an adenovirus vector.
32. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid is a herpes virus or Epstein Barr Virus vector.
33. (New) The nucleic acid composition of claim 21, wherein the nucleic acid further comprises a promoter to control expression of said hTERT protein or fragment.
34. (New) An immunogenic composition comprising:
 - a) hTERT protein (SEQ. ID NO:2);
 - b) an immunogenic polypeptide fragment of hTERT consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2; or
 - c) a chimeric protein consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2 fused with an amino acid sequence of another protein.
35. (New) The composition of claim 34, comprising hTERT protein (SEQ. ID NO:2).

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36. (New) The composition of claim 34, comprising an immunogenic polypeptide fragment of hTRT consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2.
37. (New) The composition of claim 34, comprising an immunogenic polypeptide fragment of hTRT consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 50 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2.
38. (New) The composition of claim 34, comprising a chimeric protein consisting of an amino acid sequence identical to at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2 fused with an amino acid sequence of another protein.